1/6/72

Senator Edward M. Kennedy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. Attention Mr. Martin,

Dear Sir,

That my letter of October 31 has not been responded to troubles me less than what I have just learned, that a course of action precisely that against which I have warned has been agreed upon and the first steps taken. I therefore renew my warnings of the irreparable hurt that can flow from this, especially to the names of all Kennedys in political life, now and past.

I am prepared for disbelief, for the record is undeviating.

I also find it irrational, lemming-like, that my offers of access have not been accepted when the sole precondition was the preservation of my confidence, accompanied by my own assurance that I would make no use of the fact that anyone examined my work on the Senator's behalf.

What now impends is much more important, much more dangerous to the national integrity than the hurt to a name. Whatever I feel it may require of me of which I am capable I will try and do. I write to tell you this and in this last minute, to renew my warnings and offers. You cannot have gotten advwice from anyone in a position to really know or anyone not involved in the long, sad record of the past. I wish I could feel other than that which I fear can emerge.

The record is also clear on two points: I have asked nothing from you and you have refused to look at what I have offered to show you.

Because of my fears I now go one step further. I will give you the names of three newspaper reporters you should be able to trust to the end that you can ask them if what I have shown them is solid, dependable evidence. I ask you to ask them no more about what I regard as a potentially valuable literary property in which I have an enormous investment, but I have no objection to your asking their opinions of me. They are Paul Valentine of The Washington Post, Ian McDonald of the Washington office of the Times of London, and Larry Finley, of the Chicago Daily News (312/ 321-2121).

There are none so blind as those who <u>will</u> not see. Nor any as likely to suffer.

With sincerest regrets,

Harold Weisberg